App. No. 10/521,234
Office Action Dated July 27, 2007

IN THE CLAIMS

Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 10 and 15 are amended.

Claim 9 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Listing of Claims:

1-7. (CANCELED)

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 15, wherein the protease treatment is carried out in the presence of the sulfonic acid compound and a nitro compound.

9. (CANCELED)

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 8, wherein the nitro compound is at least one selected from the group consisting of 2,4-dinitrophenol, 2,5-dinitrophenyl, 2,6-dinitrophenyl, 4,6-dinitro-2-methyl phenol, 2-amino-4-nitrophenol, 2-amino-5-nitrophenol, 2-amino-4-nitrophenol, p-nitrophenol, 2,4-dinitroaniline, p-nitroaniline, sodium nitrite, potassium nitrite, 4-[[A]]amino-4'-nitrostilbene-2,2'-disulfonic [[A]]acid [[D]]disodium [[S]]salt and nitrobenzene.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 15, wherein the protease is metalloproteinase.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 15, wherein the redox reaction is measured by determining an amount of hydrogen peroxide generated by the reaction of the glycated portion of the glycated protein degradation product and the fructosyl amino acid oxidase.

13. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 12, wherein the amount of the hydrogen peroxide is determined by using an oxidase to reduce the generated hydrogen peroxide and oxidize a substrate that develops color by oxidation and measuring a degree of the color that the substrate has developed.

14. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 13, wherein the degree of the color is measured by measuring an absorbance at a wavelength for detecting the substrate.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of measuring a glycated protein, the method comprising:

treating a sample containing the glycated protein with a protease in the presence of a sulfonic acid compound ~~and in the absence of a tetrazolium compound~~,

allowing a glycated portion of a glycated protein degradation product obtained by the ~~degradation~~ protease treatment and a fructosyl amino acid oxidase to react with each other, and

measuring the redox reaction,

wherein the sulfonic acid compound is at least one selected from the group consisting of dodecylbenzenesulfonic acid sodium salt, lithium lauryl sulfate, 4-aminoazobenzene-4'-sulfonic acid sodium salt, 4-amino-4'-nitrostilbene-2,2'-disulfonic acid disodium salt, 4,4'-diazidostilbene-2,2'-disulfonic acid disodium salt, N-cyclohexyl-2-aminoethane sulfonic acid, N-cyclohexyl-3-aminopropane sulfonic acid, N-cyclohexyl-2-hydroxy-3-aminopropane sulfonic acid, piperazine-1,4-bis(2-ethane sulfonic acid) and bathophenanthroline sulfonic acid.